

1       What is claimed is:

2       1. An improved stapler comprising:

3               a pair of arms pivotally secured in confronting relation with  
4       one another;

5               one of said arms containing a plurality of staples and  
6       structured to dispense one of said staples towards said other arm  
7       upon being pivotally moved towards said other arm and meeting  
8       resistance;

9               a opener segment extending along at least a portion of a  
10      length of one of said arms, said opener segment including a  
11      proximal end and a distal end, said proximal end secured to said  
12      one of said arms;

13               a blade disposed between said opener segment said arm to which  
14       it is secured, at generally said proximal end of said opener  
15       segment; and

16               said opener segment at least partially tapering towards said  
17      distal end, said distal end being structured to be introduced at  
18      least at a fold defined by a closure flap of an envelope until the  
19      envelope engages said blade and is cut thereby.

20       2. An improved stapler as recited in claim 1 wherein said blade  
21       is angled towards said distal end.

22       3. An improved stapler as recited in claim 1 wherein said distal  
23       end defines a point.

24       4. An improved stapler as recited in claim 1 wherein a bottom of  
25       said opener segment is generally co-planer with a bottom of

1           said arm to which it is secured.

2       5. An improved stapler as recited in claim 1 wherein said opener  
3           segment is generally co-planer with said arm to which it is  
4           secured.

5       6. An improved stapler as recited in claim 1 wherein said arms  
6           include first ends pivotally secured to one another, and  
7           second ends which move toward and away from one another as a  
8           result of said pivotal securing at said first ends.

9       7. An improved stapler as recited in claim 6 wherein said  
10           proximal end of said opener segment is secured generally at  
11           said first end of one of said arms.

12      8. An improved stapler as recited in claim 7 wherein said distal  
13           end of said opener segment extends towards said second end of  
14           one of said arms.

15      9. An improved stapler as recited in claim 1 wherein said arms  
16           include a first arm structured to contain and dispense said  
17           staples, and a second arm against which said staples are  
18           dispensed.

19      10. An improved stapler as recited in claim 9 wherein said opener  
20           segment is secured to said second arm.

21     11. An improved stapler as recited in claim 10 wherein said second  
22           arm includes a first end pivotally secured to said first arm,  
23           and a second end at which engages a dispensed staple.

24     12. An improved stapler as recited in claim 11 wherein said  
25           proximal end of said opener segment is secured generally at

1           said first end of one of said second arm.

2   13. An improved stapler as recited in claim 12 wherein said distal  
3       end of said opener segment extends towards said second end of  
4       said second arm.

5   14. An improved stapler as recited in claim 12 wherein said blade  
6       is angled towards said distal end.

7   15. An improved stapler as recited in claim 12 wherein said distal  
8       end defines a point.

9   16. An improved stapler as recited in claim 10 wherein a bottom of  
10      said opener segment is generally co-planer with a bottom of  
11      said second arm.

12   17. An improved stapler as recited in claim 10 wherein said opener  
13      segment is generally co-planer with said second arm.

14   18. An improved stapler as recited in claim 10 wherein said second  
15      arm includes a compartment structured to contain extra  
16      staples.

17   19. An improved stapler as recited in claim 10 further comprising  
18      a wedge element extending from said first end of said second  
19      arm and structured to be introduced within a secured staple so  
20      as to facilitate removal thereof.

21   20. An improved stapler as recited in claim 1 wherein said opener  
22      segment and said arm to which it is secured are integrally  
23      formed with one another.

24   21. An improved stapler comprising:

25       a pair of stapler arms pivotally secured in confronting

1 relation with one another and structured to pass a staple through  
2 an item positioned therebetween;

3 a opener segment extending from one of said stapler arms;

4 a blade disposed adjacent said opener segment; and

5 said opener segment structured to be introduced at least at a  
6 fold defined by a closure flap of an envelope until the envelope  
7 engages said blade and is cut thereby.